■ WORLD / A8
Massive storm Katrina pummels US Gulf Coast; 54 dead

■ METRO / A24
Lawyers to present audio tapes in court vs Roldan in kidnap case

Lozano also filed impeachment raps vs GMA in 2000

■ NEWS / A2
'Friendly persuasion' works vs 'jueteng,' says Hagedorn

'Pagcor takes care of media and bishops' for GMA

By John Nery

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Palace ignores Piatco deal: It's 'a private transaction'

Wednesday, August 31, 2005 · 36 pages · website: www.inq7.net



PAPER TRAIL.



BEDLAM follows the declaration by House justice committee chair ... to terminate the debates; the opposition congressmen stream out of the plenary hall.

GMA foes stage walkout

Rep. Villar makes 49, and still counting

By Michael Lim Ubac and Philip C. Tubeza

OPPOSITION efforts to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo received a boost yesterday when a key member of the Nacionalista Party endorsed the impeachment complaint against her.



THE TRIGGER. Rep. Robert Barbers ...

Theatrics, a planned tantrum, says Palace

By Michael Lim Ubac

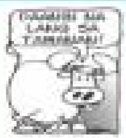
AS THOUGH foreshadowing a reprise of then President Joseph Estrada's aborted impeachment trial, proimpeachment lawmakers yesterday walked out of the House justice committee hearing, claiming the proceedings were being railroaded.

Opposition in full force in and out of House

By Philip C. Tubeza and DJ Yap



THE STAR up in the gallery, Susan Roces ...



Gloria jokes spice up Susan party

By Fe Zamora

Dinky: Lozano complaint manipulated from Day 1

By Norman Bordadora

Persuasion works vs 'jueteng'

Insurance chief staying put

3 captains freed from Army detention

Hagedorn takes 'friendly' tack on governors, mayors

GOOD news from the Arroyo administration's antijueteng czar: the "friendly persuasion" tactic really works.

Commitment

Hopeful

Angara says he won't do an Enrile, stays with Senate minority

and bishops' for GMA

From page A1

Efraim Genuino, as chair of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor).

"I need him to survive," Ms Arroyo reportedly told a group of seven Cabinet members. "He takes care of the media and the bishops."

Former Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman revealed the President's supposed reply in a forum conducted yesterday by the Black and White Movement and attended by members of the so-called Hyatt 10, the Cabinet-level officials who resigned on July 8. ***(See related story on Page A1.)***

In opening the press conference, former Education Secretary Florencio Abad also noted the President's reference to Genuino.

Pagcor is one of the country's most profitable corporations, but under Genuino, it has come under repeated fire for alleged mismanagement or abuse of state resources. Since last year, it has also had to answer charges that it helped fund the President's election campaign.

Newsbreak magazine has also published a report, based on the testimony of Pagcor insiders, showing that portions of the "Hello Garci" tapes, earlier identified as conversations that Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano had with either ex-Sen. Robert Barbers or First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, featured Genuino on the other end of the line.

Malacañang and Pagcor denied the Soliman story. "I have never heard of this line before," said Cabinet Secretary Ricardo Saludo. Pagcor spokesperson Edward King said Genuino had remained on the job for "performing well" and raising revenues. King also said Pagcor funds were under close scrutiny by the Commission on Audit.

Out of the ordinary

By most accounts, it was an extraordinary meeting, part of a series of unusual gatherings Cabinet officials were holding in June, with or without the President, after the Garcillano scandal broke in the wake of the Senate hearings on the "jueteng" numbers game.

Former Education Secretary Florencio "Butch" Abad told the forum in Makati that a small group was tasked by the Cabinet to talk to the President about the jueteng and wiretaps. Abad then called on Soliman, one of the "eyewitnesses," to detail the circumstances of the meeting.

"It was June 19 or 20, in the evening," Soliman said, speaking in Filipino. "There were seven of us, including Vice President [Noli] de Castro."

In the forum, and later in a telephone interview with the INQUIRER, Soliman could recall only two other members of that seven-man delegation: Cesar Purisima and Juan Santos, now both members of the Hyatt 10.

In the phone interview with the INQUIRER, Soliman was careful to draw the context of the meeting.

Cabinet officials were concerned about "scandals associated with Mike Arroyo," she said, and the smaller group was assigned to propose certain reforms to the President.

At one point in the meeting, the group aired "the proposal that they do self-exile," referring to the First Gentleman, his son Rep. Mikey Arroyo, and his brother, Rep. Iggy Arroyo, all of whom were implicated in the jueteng scandal.



GENUINO: Most "dependable"?

ROGER MARGALLO

Soliman remembered the President's forthright reply: "It is going to happen."

The group then raised a second proposal: "Those that were associated with Mike Arroyo be removed, because rightly or wrongly, the perception is that they are using the agencies for the interest of Mr. Arroyo."

Soliman said the President's initial reply to the second proposal was a question: "Can you give an example?"

Soliman no longer remembers who among the seven answered, but Genuino's name was given, as the only example.

At that, the President reportedly replied: "I need him to survive. He takes care of the media and the bishops."

Dependence on Genuino?

Both in the forum and during the phone interview, Soliman declined to elaborate on what the President's statements meant.

"Yung sinabi ko, 'yun ang narinig ko. Walang dagdag, walang bawas (What I said is what I heard, no more, no less)," Soliman said, using a playful reference to the popular short-hand for wholesale election fraud.

In the interview, Soliman said she took the President's words at their face value. "At that point, I just took it for what it meant."

When did she start to think there was more to the President's confession of dependence on Genuino? "After all this talk of high pressure" being exerted by the Palace surfaced, she replied.

At one point in the forum, Soliman turned emotional. *"Masakit sabihin yan, 'pagkat maaring kasama ako sa paglilinlang* [It's hard to say all these things about the President, because it's possible that I was part of the deception]," Soliman said, her voice breaking.

To corroborate charges

At the forum, another member of the Hyatt 10, Teresita "Ging" Deles, emphasized the group's willingness to support the impeachment case against Ms Arroyo.

"Yes, there are some of us who can corroborate some of the charges in the complaint." She said, however, that they would wait for the proper venue before airing their corroborative evidence.

Deles noted that while she, Soliman and Abad were members of the "national executive committee" of the President's election campaign, "none of us in the Hyatt 10 had any hint that there were any parallel operations."

A fourth member of the Hyatt 10, Mely Nicolas, stressed the same point. "We were squeaky clean. [When the Garci tapes came out,] we were all on denial [sic]."

Touch of humor

Then she added, referring to the high-profile women, including her sister Loida Nicolas-Lewis, who have taken out advertisements in the newspapers in support of President Arroyo: "I don't think many of them, including my sister, have read the tapes' [transcripts or] Mano Alcuaz's analysis [of election fraud]."

The forum was not without humor, of the black kind. At one point, responding to a question from the floor addressed to the Hyatt 10 members as "public figures," Abad replied: "Actually, we're looking for jobs at the moment. We're not public figures anymore. We're as private as can be." ***With reports from TJ Burgonio and Christine O. Avendaño***

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, August 31, 2005
22nd Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Col 1:1-8
Gospel: Luke 4:38-44

Leaving the synagogue, Jesus went to the house of Simon. His mother-in-law was suffering from high fever and they asked him to do something for her. Bending over her, he rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and waited on them.

At sunset, people suffering from many kinds of sickness were brought to Jesus. Laying his hands on each one, he healed them. Demons were driven out, howling as they departed from their victims, "You are the Son of God!" He rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, for they knew he was the Messiah.

Jesus left at daybreak and looked for a solitary place. People went out in search of him and, finding him, they tried to dissuade him from leaving. But he said, "I have to go to other towns to announce the good news of the kingdom of God. That is what I was sent to do." So Jesus continued to preach in the synagogues of the Jewish country.

Commentary

Jesus leaves the synagogue and goes to Simon's house and cures Simon's mother-in-law. She rises and waits on them (in gratitude surely). The imagery is that of raising up, of baptism into new life and ministry. She has been drawn into the circle of disciples—waiting at table on Jesus and the others. And the word spreads and so many come for healing. So many of us are still in need of healing, of wholeness, of release from debilitating sin, self-absorption and the effects that our actions and others have on all of us. Jesus lays hands on each of them (as in confirmation) and those who 'know' him because of their illness and sin are told to be silent. These are not acts of faith, but fear and distance from Jesus. And then Jesus retreats to a deserted place to pray, to be alone with his Father. And then they find him and he is off again to the towns, synagogues and houses to do his work on earth. This will be the pattern of his life. It should be ours: to preach the good news to the poor, to comfort, heal, bind the sick, to speak the truth to those who suffer from doing evil, or are the victims of sin and to pray, seeking strength from our God—but to always come back to those who are lost and in need. This is what we are sent to do as well.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Website: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

Corrections

IN THE AUG. 19 issue, a story on Page A3—"GMA extols Pinay chef in White House"—misstated the year White House executive chef Cristeta Comerford began studying at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. The year was 1979—not 1971.

* * *

IN THE AUG. 28 issue, Ruben Nepales' "Only in Hollywood" column in the Entertainment Section on Page A3-1—"Andrew Cunanan the musical, a Pinay Yoko Ono on Broadway"—misstated the location of La Jolla Playhouse. It is in San Diego—not Orange County.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses: glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent, pending the appointment of a new readers' advocate, to Isagani Yambot, publisher, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address: iyambot@inquirer.com.ph.

Cabagnot coming back to play



CABAGNOT

By Beth Celis

PEOPLE will get to see what the fuss was all about after all.

Dolphins battle Cards sans sacked coach



PHILIPPINE Christian U star Gabby Espinas (right) will have to work doubly hard for the coach-less Dolphins.

Culprit: BF's bike lane

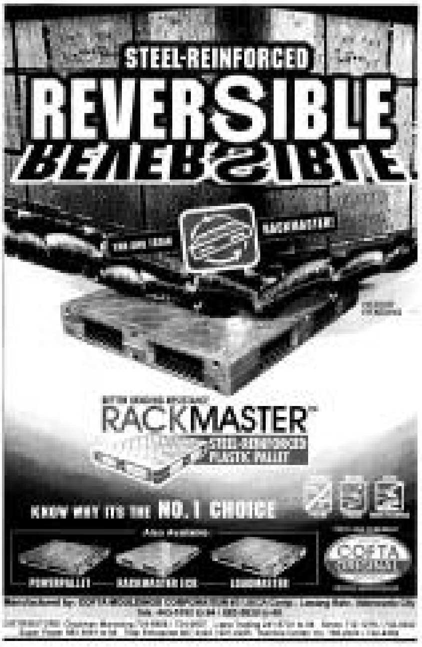


NBC cagers rip Koreans, zero in on title

Public clamor won't make PBF accede to BAP in SEAG caging

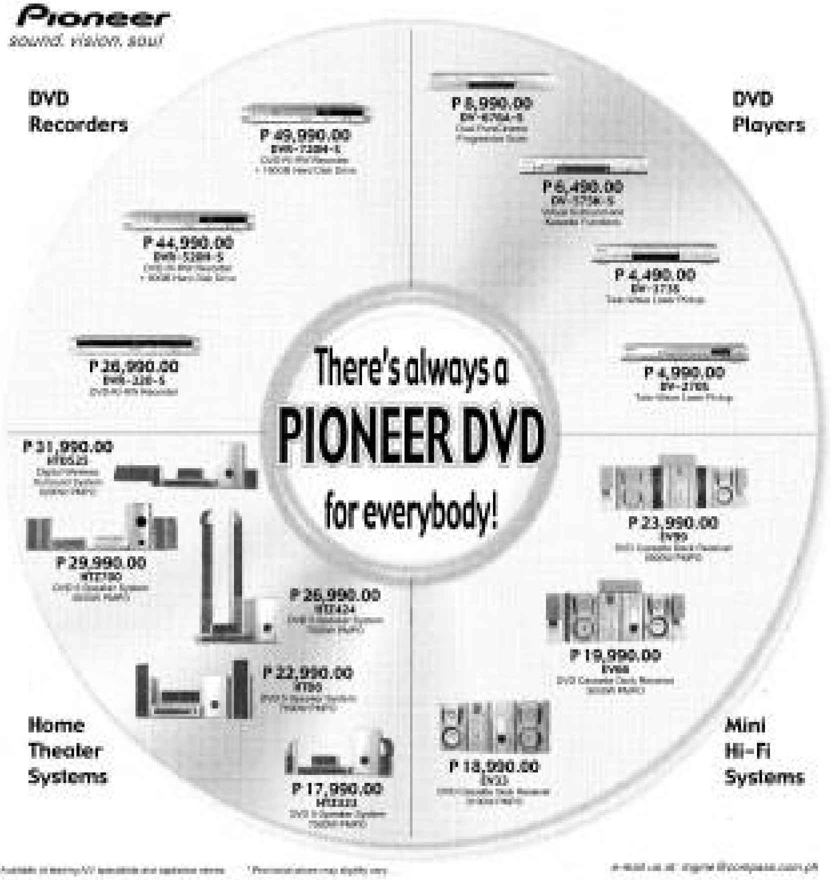
By Musong R. Castillo

With no visa, Garci can't be in US, says NBI



Subic needs new blood – Gordon

Erap to take stand



Palace ignores Piatco deal



NAIA Terminal 3 aero bridges.

In a hurry to settle

Start negotiations

GSIS factor

The WORLD

Katrina pummels Gulf Coast; 54 dead

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana—Rescue crews worked frantically Tuesday to save hundreds of people trapped by floodwaters from Hurricane Katrina, which devastated the US Gulf Coast states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama and reportedly left dozens of people dead.

Hurricane insurance claims may hit $26B

Pacquiao, Morales get pre-fight hype



PACQUIAO

Eastridge powers on; Southwoods gains last 4

NCAA-South meet kicks off Saturday

Flexible screening for RP's SEAG bets



ANG PING

Bibat takes Samsung lead; Pagunsan struggles

Why Philippine sports is a headless chicken



BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

Agassi, Nadal gain

Champ ousted, Sharapova advances

NEW YORK—Like an ageless rock star, Andre Agassi took the court for his 20th straight US Open to roars that drowned out his introduction.



AGASSI



NADAL



AP SHARAPOVA

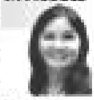
Telfair, Korean cagers here for Adidas finals

UMak, NEU triumph

Palo nails Poker King leg crown

Eagles finally flying high

IN HUDDLE



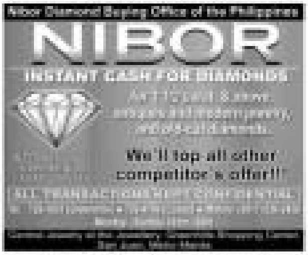
Sharon eyes more West Bank pullouts

[illegible]

Sunnis urge changes in Iraq charter

[illegible]

Negotiations start on crucial UN document



Iran claims new nuke breakthrough

Japan LDP top in poll



Jackson urges US to denounce assassination call



Lebanon nabs former security chiefs

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Self-sacrifice

EDITORIAL



The strategy of the guilty



AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Rule of law



THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

UP 'alumna' heads Tokyo university

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

Scratch, scratch

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Eternal vigilance

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

A glimpse of a hero's life and times

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

What's wrong, what's right in the Philippines

LETTERS

New unemployment definition meant to align statistics with global standard

GMA adviser eyed as new head of SBMA

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Malacañang is reportedly considering Renato Diaz, presidential adviser for Central Luzon, for the post vacated by resigned Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Francisco Licuanan III, a Palace source said on Tuesday.

Church says Aurora family planning program promotes 'culture of death'

4 teeners killed in road crash

COA says ₱7.7-M water firm fund release illegal



TERROR WATCH

Gloria recalls pardon for 17 Chinese poachers

Meeting sought between Cavite gov, vice gov



INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Tradition helps upland folk survive crisis

A LONG tradition of being each other's keeper is helping the Kankanaey people in Kibungan, Benguet, survive tragedies, such as death (which is enough to throw family members into the debt pit), especially in these times of crisis.

[illegible]

Donation

[illegible]

Compromise

[illegible]



To restore or demolish Casa Vallejo

BUILT nearly a century ago, Casa Vallejo is one of Baguio City's oldest remaining structures. The remnant of the city's Government Center is one of the few buildings that survived bombings during World War II.

[illegible]

Prime lot

[illegible]

WW II survivor

[illegible]

Dinky: Lozano complaint manipulated from Day 1

From page A1

claim the Chief Executive has steadfastly denied.

The President's June 27 confession sparked calls for her resignation. The demands reached fever pitch when Soliman joined six other Cabinet secretaries and four Palace officials—collectively called the Hyatt 10—in quitting about a week later and adding their voices to the resign chorus.

A coincidence?

"Was it a coincidence that attorney Lozano filed his impeachment complaint on the morning of June 27, and in the evening of the same day, (the President) made her 'I'm Sorry' speech on the Garci tapes?" said former Education Secretary Florencio Abad.

"Or was the weak and possibly deliberately-defective Lozano complaint part of a grand conspiracy to frustrate and preclude the filing of an honest-to-goodness impeachment complaint that would arise from the public admission made by the President on the Garci tapes?" said Abad, a member of the Hyatt 10.

Abad said that if this were the case, this would be the reason Ms Arroyo's allies in the House had adopted a "very restrictive and narrow implementation of the impeachment rules and the Constitution."

It was unclear if Lozano himself was part of the alleged impeachment charade.

The 45-year-old Lozano burst into the Philippine political scene after the ouster of the dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. He was a founder of the Marcos loyalist movement that mounted a futile effort to bring back the deposed leader from exile in Hawaii.

A supporter also of ousted President Joseph Estrada, Lozano had questioned in the Supreme Court in 2001 the legitimacy of Ms Arroyo taking over Malacañang. Lozano also joined the failed presidential campaign of the late movie star Fernando Poe Jr.

The question that is being asked now is: Is Lozano a willing conspirator or simply an ambulance-chasing lawyer and publicity hound, who had fallen, unwitting victim to what Soliman called a "deception."

Lozano denied he had "colluded" with Ms Arroyo. In an interview over dzMM radio, he said Soliman had betrayed the President and could not be a "trusted source" of information.

Macaraig dismissed Soliman's claim as "rubbish and baseless."

Ohcalla said he had no chance to talk privately to Ms Arroyo after her public acts of contrition.

"Dinky and the other Cabinet members were all over her, giving her a bouquet and singing 'If We Hold On Together,'" Ohcalla said. *With reports from Philip C. Tubeza and Christine O. Avendaño*



NO DIRTY area here. For the "Hyatt 10" (minus Ochoa), it's either black or white, they declare during their press conference on Wednesday a few hours before the start of the impeachment hearings in the House. From left, ex-presidential adviser on the peace process Ging Deles, ex-Deputy Secretary Florencio Abad, ex-DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman, ex-BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno, ex-chair of the National Anti-Poverty Commission Imelda Nicolas and ex-Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima.



GMA POINT MEN Speaker Jose de Venecia and Rep. Prospero Nograles pay their respects to FPJ's widow.

Gloria jokes …

From page A1

Over dinner hosted by Susan Roces on the eve of the justice committee's tasks to break sure on which of the three impeachment complaints was sufficient in form and substance, Rep. Alan Peter Cayetano exposed through jokes Malacañang's resolve to block the case.

Under the 'Saro'

"Behind every successful man is a persevering woman; that man is called 'under the saya' (skirt). Today, behind every successful congressman is the Saro (Special Allotment Release Order). This congressman is called 'under the Saro,'" said Cayetano, spokesperson of prolonged-impeach-ment legislators.

He was referring to reports that anti-impeachment members of the House of Representatives had been offered P20 million each for infrastructure projects in their respective districts in exchange for supporting Ms Arroyo.

Seriously, Cayetano also said: "This week we are going to prove this is not the best Congress that money can buy."

Cross pen

Roces, widow of Fernando Poe Jr., Ms Arroyo's closest rival in the 2004 presidential election, had hoped to fete all the 48 members of the House who signed the amended impeachment complaint, even preparing a Cross pen wrapped in dreamy Chiffon made from abaca tied with a pouch ribbon for each signatory. A place pouch hair dangled from each package.

But a weekend announcement declaring Monday a public holiday upset the schedules of a number of lawmakers who were to attend the dinner, which was planned only on Friday.

"We really wanted all of us to be here, but some of us are still in the provinces because it's a holiday," Akbayan Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales said.

The reporter counted a total of 20 members of the House at the party, a majority of them party-list representatives.

Minority Leader Francis Escudero left early as he was running a fever, while those belonging to the Liberal Party asked to be excused as they were attending the birthday party of Sen. Francisco "Kiko" Pangilinan, on Wednesday, Ms Roces said.

Young Guns

The so-called "Young Guns"—Representatives [illegible] and [illegible]—who decided to abandon the ruling coalition by signing the impeachment complaint last week, did not show up.

Their absence, however, inspired Cayetano to crack another joke.

"Every election man have its guns, goons and gold. Well, we have the young guns, but Malacañang still has the goons and gold," he said, eliciting chuckles from reporters.

Even the allegedly overpriced NorthRail project, among the impeachable offenses in the amended complaint, did not escape Cayetano's ribbing. "It's actually obsolete technology said. We heard now to us. It's what you call ukay-ukay NorthRail."

Ukay-ukay refers to used garments, footwear, bags and accessories, mostly from abroad.

Even Ms Roces, a former movie actress who used to star in romantic comedies, had her own one-liner.

Asked if she was expecting some surprises, she jested: "What kind of surprise? Like GMA posing as? Or DJ?"

TNT

Bayan Muna Rep. Rafael Mariano, had this joke: "Didn't you know that GMA and Garci are both TNTs? GMA is *tawag nang tawag* (calling and calling), while Garci is *tago nang tago* (hiding and hiding)."

Mariano was referring to Ms Arroyo's alleged telephone calls to members of the House to convince them not to sign the impeachment case.

Garci is the name that the President supposedly used when she called former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano in May 2004 allegedly to order him to rig the polls.

A wiretap of the telephone calls was made public on June 6, triggering massive calls for her resignation. Ms Arroyo apologized for making the calls, but maintained she won the elections "fair and square."

The amended impeachment complaint filed by the opposition has yet to muster 79 signatures to send the case to the Senate for trial.

Opposition in full force in and out of House

[illegible]

'Not for Sale'

[illegible]

Mass and march

[illegible]

'September storm'

[illegible]

CAMPAIGN FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY (CPA)

July 22, 2005

Atty. RICARDO ROMULO
Chairman
The Makati Business Club (MBC)
Makati Exchange Building, Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Metro Manila

Dear Atty. ROMULO:

We admire your courage, and that of your Executive Director, Guillermo Luz in declaring your call for President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to resign over alleged election fraud and jueteng scandal, though we understand, that you did not have the support of the majority members of the Makati Business Club. For that, we salute you, Mr. Luz and the rest of the Zobel de Ayala clan who supported your move.

Indeed, this militant stand should be a necessary component among our business and political leaders in these trying times. Political leaders, because they are the ones responsible in making sure that our government serves the best interest of our people. Business leaders in turn, support a government through prompt and honest payments of taxes while ensuring that public funds are not squandered nor plundered by government officials.

It is in this light that the **Campaign for Public Accountability** (CPA) brings to your attention the long-delayed P 662 million plunder cases against Mayor Jejomar C. Binay, his wife Elenita and six other officials in the Office of the Ombudsman. Mayor Binay as you know, is the Chairman of the United Opposition and chief organizer of the Makati rallies seeking the ouster of President Arroyo.

Last Tuesday, July 12, we filed an **"Urgent Motion to Resolve"** these cases in our effort to find justice for our people and the big taxpayers of the country, most of whom are members of the Makati Business Club.

As recommended in the Audit Report of the Commission on Audit (COA) dated April 19, 2002, we filed cases of plunder against Makati Mayor Jejomar C. Binay, his wife, former mayor Elenita and seven other officials on August 20, 2003 for ghost deliveries, gross overpricing and falsification of documents in the anomalous purchase of hospital equipment and supplies for the Ospital ng Makati involving P438.2 million.

Again, on the strength of another COA Audit Report dated September 24, 2002, we filed cases of plunder, estafa, misappropriation of public funds and grave misconduct against Binay, his wife, former Mayor Elenita Binay and six other officials for rigged bidding, falsification of public documents and gross overpricing in the delivery and installation of office furniture and partitions for the new Makati City Hall building in the amount of P231.5 million.

These cases, numbered OMB-C-C-04-0023-A and OMB-C-A-04-0031-A, are still pending and awaiting resolution at the Office of the Ombudsman for almost two (2) years now. This is the reason why, we filed a **Motion to Resolve** last July 12, for fear of a "white-wash" once again, by some corrupt officials in the Office of the Ombudsman.

Accordingly, we respectfully invite the Makati Business Club to support and/or join our crusade for justice and good government right here in the City of Makati where most if not all of your tax paying members are based. The P662 million squandered and the many more millions plundered in the City are mostly their hard-earned tax payments.

It is therefore, in our view, the concern of the Makati Business Club, more specifically you Atty. Romulo as Chairman, and that of Mr. Guillermo Luz as Executive Director, to protect public funds and ensure that they are disbursed and spent judiciously for public good and to the best interest of the people in Makati. Together, we must make sure that the City government of Makati is run by officials of utmost honesty and integrity with strict adherence to the constitutional provision that "public office is a public trust".

Together, we can make sure that freedom and justice in the city would prevail, with full guarantees that critics and those residents in disagreement with the Mayor are free from terror, threats, harassments and intimidations. Together, we can make Makati more responsive to needs of the poor and a better place to live in for all.

Please join us in our shout that, **"justice delayed, is justice denied"** and urge Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo to perform his constitutional obligation to resolve the plunder cases against Mayor Binay, his wife Elenita and other co-respondents, send them to jail, put an end to the conjugal dictatorship and render justice to the tax payers and the people of Makati.

We shall expect you to protect the interest of the Makati Business Club by making a principled and determined stand against corruption, **first in Makati**, before anywhere else, and join us in our crusade for transparency, accountability and good government.

Then finally, we say, **let those with clean hands and those without crime, make the first shout for President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to resign.**

Thank you.

BOBBY BRILLANTE
Convenor
Campaign for Public Accountability (CPA)
President, Kalayaan Foundation, Inc.

DIMAS PUNDATO
Chairman
MNLF Reformist Group
for Good Government

WENG ESTRELLA
President
National Association of Corruption
Prevention Units (NACPU)

Atty. NAPOLEON MALIMAS
Chairman
Union of Business and Professionals
for Good Government

ELENA BARABA-MACCAY
Chairperson
People's Alliance of Makati (PALM)

ALFREDO R. LAPITAN
President
Bantay Barangay Laban sa Korapsyon

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First Quarter Storm Movement

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Atty. SEVERINO LIWAG DAYAO
Chairman
League of Trial Lawyers Against
Graft and Corruption

WALDY CARBONELL
President
Green Philippines Foundation, Inc.

KALAYAAN FOUNDATION, Inc.
175 Kalayaan Avenue, West Rembo, Makati City • TeleFAX 881-6028

GMA foes stage walkout

'Sham' proceedings

Lozano filed impeach rap in 2000 vs GMA

By Michael Lim Ubac

Bishop Cruz: It's moral issue

'Bastardized process'

All's fair

'Zombie-like'

Rep. Villar makes 49 ...

Only single digits needed

Pillar of Congress

Who are they?

Big question

Crucial role

NPC reluctance

Extra school day for Muslim pupils

By Jocelyn R. Uy

Xavierville to test bike lane

Del Pilar marker unveiled

MetroBriefs

Expensive trip



SSC has new president



Free medical tests for Torres High alumni

METRO

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min

P42,715,661.10

Tapes presented vs Roldan at pre-trial

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.



ROLDAN

Only 3 hours for air-con units in Pasig

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

For easy viewing

BUSINESS

Volume of oil products sold down 7.3%



Gov't rejects bids for 91-day T-bills

By Michelle V. Remo

Rising prices dampen demand

By Abigail L. Ho

SALES of oil products dropped by 7.3 percent to 9.02 billion liters in the first half as fuel prices continued to escalate and uncertainties brought by the pending expanded value-added tax law dampened demand.

Currencies



Stock Market

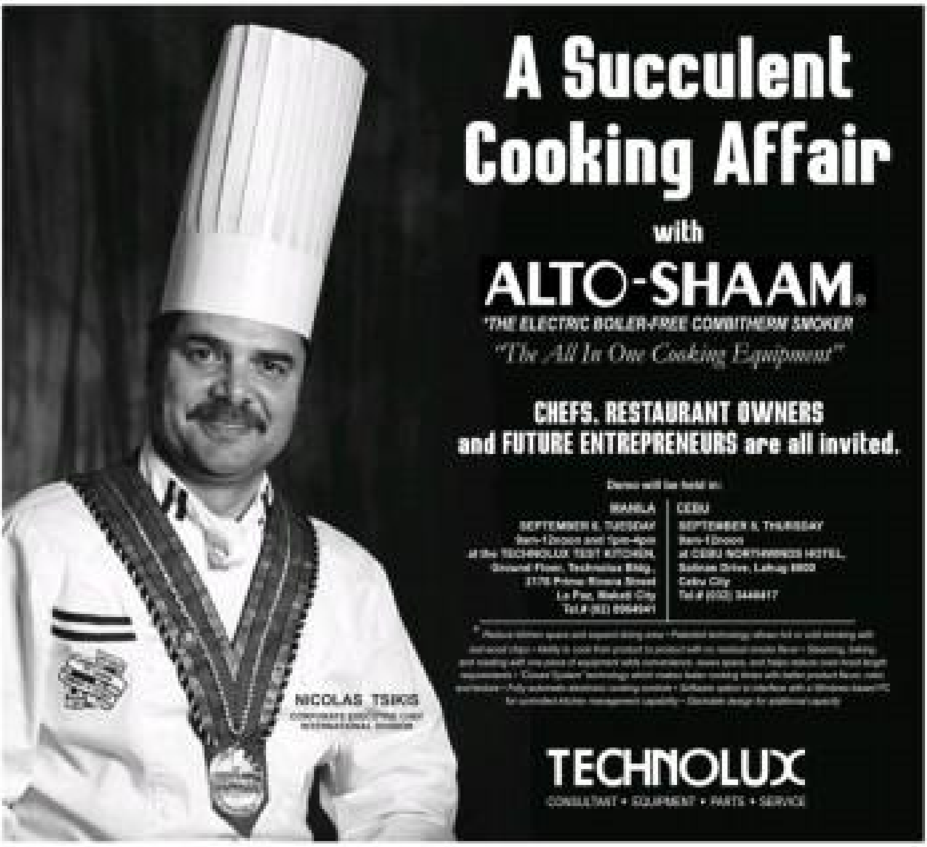
PAL likely to stay put

By Clarissa S. Batino

Distillers to turn excess alcohol into fuel ethanol

By Abigail L. Ho





Hyatt hypocrites

COCK-TALES

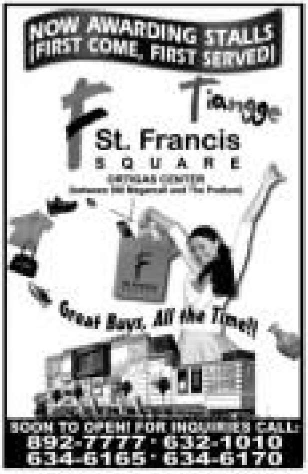
Victor C. Agustin

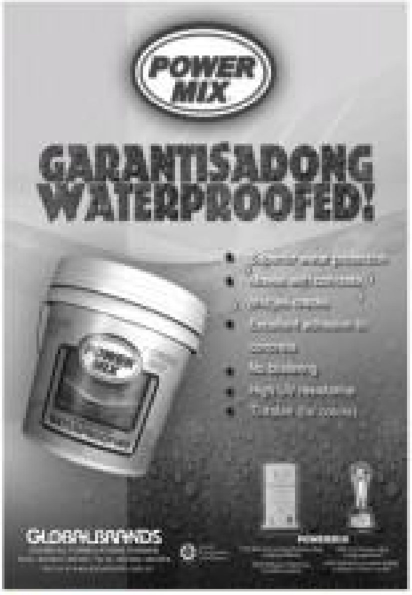
Less luggage allowance

Sightings

Heard through the grapevine

243 new ports to open









More PNB assets sold

PHILIPPINE National Bank has sold P1.21 billion worth of idle assets through its monthly public auctions that started in August 2003.

PNB SVP and asset management sector head Nelsonn Geli said the competitive bid format enabled the bank to generate a gross margin of 30 percent over the book value of the assets.

The assets sold were mostly residential property worth P1 million and below. PNB has held 40 auctions so far and is scheduled to hold 15 more this year.

"We are the first bank to hold regular auctions outside Metro Manila and we post a success rate of 20 percent per auction," Geli said.

PNB vice president and auction head Rolando Crisostomo attributed the good sales turnout to the bank's extensive branch network. He said the bank's more than 300 branches have allowed the marketing of auctions to select areas. *Ronn C. Dumlao*

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Disclosures

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. said it was exploring the possibility of providing direct-to-home (DTH) satellite television service in the Philippines. In this regard, discussions between the PLDT Group and certain DTH satellite television service franchise holders, including Philippine Multi-Media Systems Inc., operator of Dream Satellite TV, are ongoing.

***

[illegible] Mining & Industrial Corp.'s board appointed directors [illegible] to head the following committees: Audit, nomination, and compensation and remuneration.

***

[illegible] Consolidated Inc. approved in principle the proposal of Forum Energy Plc. (FEP) to acquire Basic Petroleum and Minerals Inc., a BCI subsidiary, in consideration of, among others, cash and shares of FEP.

Compiled by [illegible] Sarmiento, PDI Research

Currencies

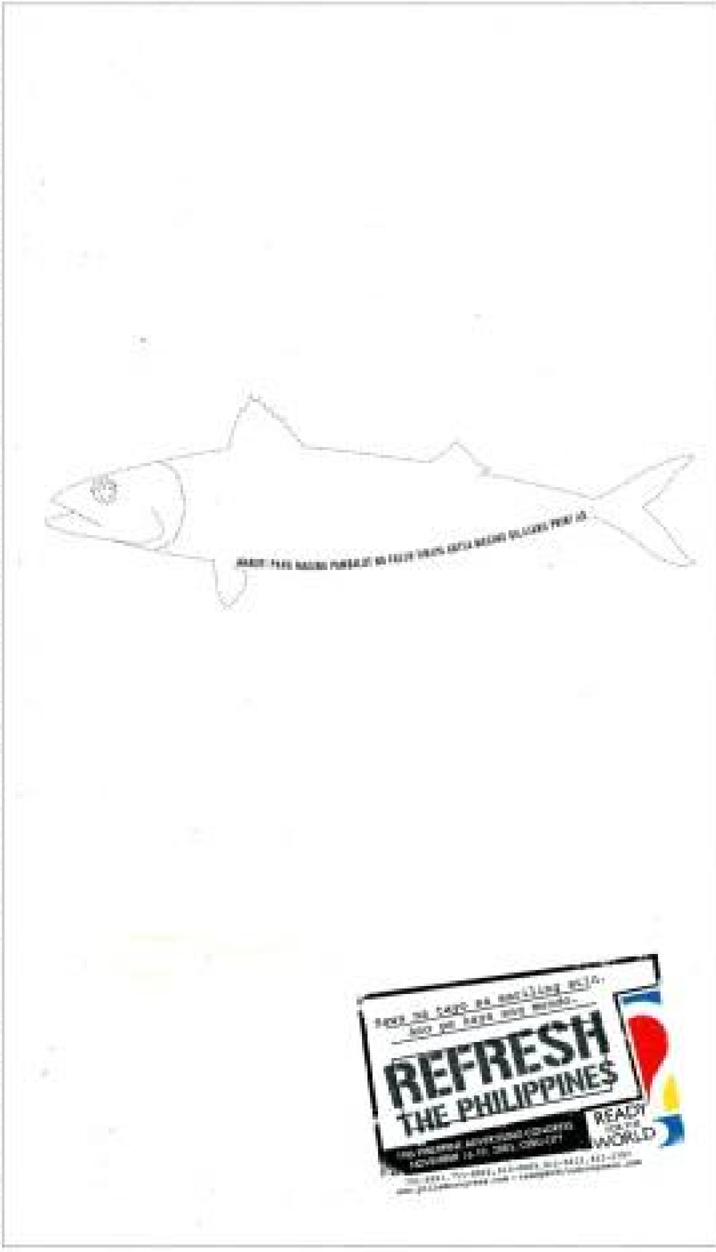
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Aussie fund manager, Araneta firm buy into ISM

Gov't rejects . . .

Shares close . . .





Business

Gov't eyes ₱100-B hike in infra spending yearly

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]



SMC poultry unit posts 14% revenue hike

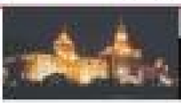
By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

[illegible]

BPI buys 91.5% of Prudential Bank

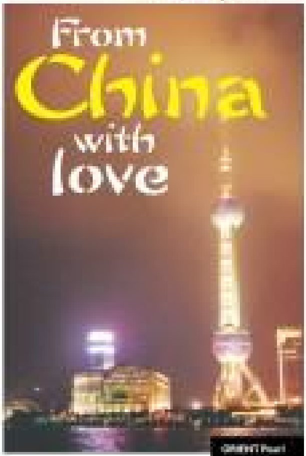
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Philippine-Chinese ties were further strengthened with a historic visit by 114 Filipinos to the Chinese mainland



A NIGHTTIME view of Shanghai

From China with love



ORIENT Pearl Television Tower in Shanghai

By Catherine Young
2bU! Correspondent
Photos by Wan Yen [illegible]

FILIPINOS and Chinese have always been in close contact since pre-colonial times. Thirty years of Sino-Filipino diplomatic relations cemented this bridge considerably, and give only a glimpse of what future ties can bring.

In July, 114 young Filipino delegates were sent to China on the first Philippine-China Youth Ambassadors Program. This exchange program was an output of President Hu Jintao's state visit to the Philippines in April. It was co-organized by the All-China Youth Federation on the Chinese side, and by the National Youth Commission (NYC) and Thames International Business School on the Philippine side.

The NYC and Thames only had three weeks to organize the delegation. The youth ambassadors from the Philippines represented four sectors: government, young entrepreneurs, young professionals and students.

Aside from strengthening diplomatic ties, the program also represented a partnership between the Philippine government and the private sector. Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, chair of the NYC, headed the delegation, while Vivienne Tan, president of Thames, was the program partner from the private sector.

In nine days, the Filipino delegates were treated to a comprehensive taste of China by visiting three cities: Hangzhou, Beijing and Shanghai.

Cultural exchange

These ambassadors of goodwill also experienced China literally, in a cultural exchange that featured Chinese cooking, tai chi boxing, Chinese calligraphy and painting, paper cut and kite weaving and a night at the Peking opera.

Tours of historic Chinese sites were also a main feature. Delegates visited attractions such as the Leifeng Pagoda, the West Lake and the Monastery of Soul's Retreat in Hangzhou; the Great Hall of the People, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall in Beijing; and the Eastern Pearl Television Tower in Shanghai.

A visit to the Hangzhou Village opened the Filipinos' eyes to the Chinese idea of community. A trip to [illegible] Corporation, where the people's representative was given a higher position in the hierarchy than all the CEOs, was also a learning experience.

Lush banquets punctuated the evenings' itinerary, accompanied by cultural performances from both the Filipinos and the Chinese. Shopping was also an experience, as haggling with Chinese businessmen required considerable skill and willpower.

The program ended with the Filipino delegates and their Chinese hosts on an evening cruise on Huangpu River in Shanghai.

Group discussions

Clearly, much insight and learning were absorbed during the trip. In group discussions at the end of the program, many of

[illegible] C2

From China with love



THE FILIPINO delegation before departing for China



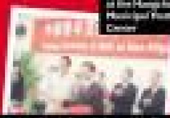
PHILIPPINE and Chinese flags

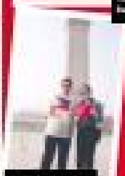


A CHINESE boy takes an art class at the Hangzhou Municipal Youth Center



CORE group members join hands after a state banquet in Beijing







FILIPINO delegates get a taste of Peking Opera...



TREKKING through the Great Wall of China



VIEW from the top: Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall

Significant event

Inspiring

Power to the youth

THE ALL-CHINA Youth Federation (ACYF) aims "to promote youth participation and development, to protect the legitimate rights and interests of young people, and to serve the needs of Chinese youth."

> The National Youth Commission and the All-China Youth Federation harness the talents of the youth

National Youth Commission

Of cheongsams and barong Tagalogs

By Catherine Young

IT'S no secret that I'm biracial. My mother is Filipina; my father, half-Chinese.

> Filipino and Chinese culture are worlds apart yet strikingly similar in some ways

Value for education

Discipline

Planning

Wise political policies

Heart

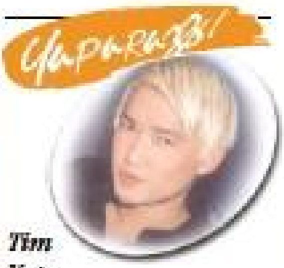
Bayanihan spirit

Warmest Asians



THE YAPA RAZZI dance? Check it out this Saturday, 8 p.m. on ABC 5, only at "Club_TV."

Gonna make that change



Tim Yap

How Michael Jackson affected my life—beyond the gross makeup and the cosmetic re-engineering

EARLY last week, I had an encounter with a Michael Jackson song, a long-forgotten ditty titled "Tabloid Junkie," from Jacko's "History" album. It's about how everybody wants to believe everything one sees and hears, even if it's not the truth. Somehow the words have also been echoing in my head—in a surreal way.

Just because you read it in a magazine

Or see it on the TV screen

Don't make it factual

See, but everybody wants to believe all about it

She's blonde and she's bisexual

That refrain wasn't referring to me (or to Jude Law's naked paparazzi pix), but okay, I confess—I have been rehearsing to the tune of this song for a dance number. Yup, you heard it right, a true blue (or shall I say, blonde) dance number, choreographed, rehearsed, complete with props and flying chairs, kicks, background dancers, et al—you get the picture? Catch it this Saturday, 8 p.m. on ABC-5's "Club_TV" (Sorry, shameless plug right there!)

Lately, my life's taken a new dance twist with "Club_TV." Think of it as a pre-party of sorts where you get to hobnob and dance with your favorite celebrities in a club setting. We have a party princess whose name is **Laura Jean**, guest dudes who co-host with the two of us, such as **KC Montero**, **Juddha Paolo**, and for this week, my good buddy **Borgy Manotoc**. **Gab Valenciano** and **Miggy Eugenio** both come from dance-related genes (Gab is to Gary, while Migs is to Geleen). Add to that the Guam-based dance group, Skip. Each week is a whole new party experience.

After-party

Everything has indeed been a whole new experience. The peak probably was when we got a spoof slot in "Wow Mali!" by the genius **Joey de Leon**. I am truly and deeply flattered.

Fast-forward to a few days later, I found myself writing this column right smack center of an after party.

In between jokes, and a girl playing with z ips, my friend asked me to listen carefully to this newly remixed house version of an old anthem. "I'm gonna make a change, for once in my life..." The room became quiet—and then bam! Everyone suddenly joined in the chorus!

I'm starting with the man in the mirror

I'm asking him to change his ways

And no message could have been any clearer

If you wanna make the world a better place

Take a look at yourself and make that change

Sometimes, lyrics have a way of calling out to you. Remember those karaoke sessions that gave you the goosebumps after suddenly realizing the true meaning of the song?

I've been a victim of a selfish kind of love

It's time that I realize that there are some with no home, not a nickel to loan

Could it be really me, pretending that they're not alone?

It's funny how the mix of lyrics plus company plus your state in life makes such a difference. It's like hearing words of advice when you need it the most. Serendipitous, if you wanna call it that.

I walked out at the peak of the party with a smile, knowing that Someone up there was trying to deliver a message.

True enough, when I checked my mail, the inbox was full due to feedback from 2bU!'s young journalists summit. I want to share one with you.

"Greetings of peace and love! I am a public school teacher here in Calasiao, Pangasinan. At present, I am also the reading coordinator and library resource center custodian. I have always clung to the idea that literacy, knowledge and social consciousness are by-products of discriminating reading habits. I try to promote reading interest and awareness to my students but I am having difficulty enticing them to visit the library. I don't blame them. Our library definitely needs a makeover. For one, it has a very slim collection of paperbacks and reference materials.

"I read INQUIRER as often as I can. (I can't afford to buy my own copy regularly—I wait till the school copy has been read by the 'gods.') I read your column and I thought of writing you for assistance. I have e-mailed government and non-government sectors and personnel about our need for more books but my request seemed to have fallen on deaf ears.

"I do hope you can find it in your heart to donate books for us in the province. Or at least send me e-mail addresses of people or agencies who can grant my humble request. I would like to inspire my students to acquire the love for reading, but we need books! Books of great minds and enlightened souls! Am I asking for too much? My colleagues think I am wasting my time writing even the politicians to help us out. Yes! I have actually e-mailed several already. Are my efforts really futile? I don't think so. I told myself, I'll press on till I see our library full of books and students having a great time reading.

"Thank you in anticipation for a favorable response.

"Respectfully yours,

"AGNES P. BACUGAN"

Want to make a change? E-mail Agnes at agnesb712000@yahoo.com and spread the love—of reading books!

E-mail Yaparazzi at supertim@pldtdsl.net



"CLUB_TV" partyphiles KC Montero and Laura Jean. This week, Borgy Manotoc joins the gang.



"CLUB_TV" director Rich Ilustre

2BU! LIFESTYLE



YOU wouldn't want to leave Heaven 'N Eggs.

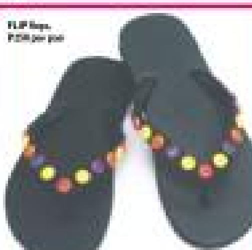
A taste of heaven

Text by Pam Pastor
Photos by Roger Cargo

WE have found heaven on earth.

[illegible]

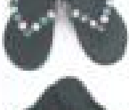
Take a break from the busy city and find refuge in a paradise where the seats are swings and the waiters have wings



Buttons up!

Young designer is flip-flopping her way to fashion success















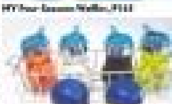






Bestsellers







The great white way



Cosmetics firms have jumped into the whitening bandwagon

Best whitening range

STYLE



CLOUD NINE. Heaven 'N Eggs offers relaxation and good food.



GRAPE, lemon, bubble gum, lychee, strawberry soda made with the vintage soda fountain

The people behind Heaven 'N Eggs believe in empowering their patrons by giving them a lot of options. Even their pancake syrup comes in four flavors—maple, peach, pineapple, and coconut, which is the favorite. Different toppings (blueberry and apple) are also available. Diners can choose how they want their eggs to be cooked. Meals are served with any two of the following: rice, bread, pancake, mashed potatoes, fries or hash browns.

And their authentic vintage soda fountain machine, which they bought from the US, serves five different flavors—bubble gum, lychee, lemon, grape and strawberry.

Because of the countless choices, the large servings, the excellent service (what else can you expect from people wearing shirts emblazoned with the words "I am your angel"?) and reasonable prices, patrons are sure to keep coming back again and again. We're willing to bet that even real angels will sing praises for this Heaven.

Heaven 'N Eggs Glorietta (G/F, Glorietta 4) is open from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Call 8182792. Heaven 'N Eggs Tomas Morato Ave. (G/F CKB Building, Sct. Rallos St., QC) is open from 7 a.m.-12 mn. Call 3762674.

E-mail the author at ppastor@inquirer.com.ph.

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mentioned this range quite a number of times for a good reason. It's luxury skin care for a fraction of the price. It kills breakouts without peeling or burning (thanks to its Sebocalmyl component), and it doesn't damage your skin the way other anti-acne solutions do. I carry around the **Spot Treatment**, just in case I feel a zonker coming on—it usually kills it on the spot.

Save:

Clean and Clear. Remember, when using this drugstore line, that "it's just a pimple, no big deal." With Clean and Clear, you might actually believe it is. What can be easier than doing your usual three-step system and knowing that you're fighting breakouts at the same time? The foaming facial wash always gets me squeaky clean and confident that every bacterium threatening to ruin my complexion has been gotten rid of, and the oil-free moisturizer is such a grease-buster of a product, I don't need to follow up with powder. Get your hands on this one if you're active, basic, and no-fuss.

E-mail the author at lora_gahol@yahoo.com or lgahol@pldtvibe.net